

Septic Project Back on Track

By SUSANNA SHEEHAN

There is a possibility that the Bay Road shared septic system project may actually begin this fall, selectmen learned this week.

According to Department of Public Works director Wally Tonaszuck, the bonding company that is responsible for making sure the project is completed has chosen another contractor to replace the company who was initially awarded the project. The original contractor, UtiliTech of Sutton, had financial trouble and could not perform the work. It was slated to begin in June.

The new contractor, D and C Construction of Rockland, will begin moving materials and equipment to the area immediately. Company representatives will meet with selectmen on October 15 to review their construction schedule. D and C Construction also bid on the Bay Rd. project and came in 9th. The town is required under state law to hire the lowest bidder on municipal projects.

Although the new contractor will charge more for the project, it will not cost the town any more than the \$699,585 bid from UtiliTech, because the

bonding company must make up the difference.

This project will provide septic systems to homes along Bay Rd. with failing systems, some of which are polluting the bay. The properties are on Bay Rd., Beechwood Lane, Wirt Way, Landing Rd., Surfside West, Grandview Ave., and Seabury Point Rd. They need

the shared system because they are in areas prone to flooding or have lots that are too small for Title 5 systems. In 1999, Town Meeting supported \$914,000 for the design and construction, which will be repaid by homeowners through betterments. Homeowners will also pay for operation and maintenance costs.